

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2510
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FOR ARA/CCA CA/VO PT SCS

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PDEV CGEN CASC CPAS CVIS SHUM CU
SUBJ: AMCIT REPATRIATION FROM CUBA:CHARTER SCHEDULING

REF: A. STATE 175096, B. HAVANA 1964, C. HAVANA 1923,
D. STATE 170191 (NOTAL)

1. USINT AGREES THAT AUGUST 22 REASONABLE TENTATIVE TARGET
DATE FOR CHARTER. DEPT. SHOULD, HOWEVER, NOTE PARA FOUR
REF C. IT IS STILL THE CASE THAT, TO USINT'S KNOWLEDGE
(AND WE WOULD KNOW FROM AMCITS), NO NUCLEO HAS ACUTALLY BEEN
AUTHORIZED DEPARTURE BY CUBAN IMMIGRATION, NOR HAS LIST OF
47 APPROVED FAMILIES BEEN PROVIDED BY MINREX. UNTIL WE HAVE
ACTUAL APPROVED FAMILIES, IT IS UNREASONABLE TO FIX FIRM
DATE FOR CHARTER.

2. IF GOC DOES AUTHORIZE DEPARTURES IN NEAR FUTURE AND NO
LATER THAN AUGUST 1 (WHICH BECOMES LESS LIKELY AS XI WORLD
YOUTH FESTIVAL JULY 28 - AUGUST 4 APPROACHES), WE CONSIDER IT
POSSIBLE TO HAVE A GROUP OF 128 PERSONS DOCUMENTED FOR LATE
AUGUST DEPARTURE. IF NOT, CHARTER DATE WILL OF NECESSITY
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SLIP INTO SEPTEMBER.

3. OTHER FACTOR WHICH COULD DELAY MOVEMENT IS THAT OF
US DOCUMENTATION. IF AMCITS AND CUBAN FAMILY MEMBERS
APPROVED BY CUBANS FOR DEPARTURE DO NOT COME IN TO FILE
I-130'S AND DO NOT MEET BASIC DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS,
CHARTER WOULD HAVE TO BE DELAYED UNTIL THEY MEET I-130

REQUIREMENT AND HAVE THEIR CIVIL DOCUMENTS SO THEY CAN QUALIFY FOR IV. (LONG LINES ARE FORMING AT HAVANA CIVIL REGISTRY AS UNPRECEDENTED NUMBERS OF CUBANS BEGIN TO REQUEST REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.)

4. USINT IS NOW APPROVING I-130'S AT RATE OF 5 TO 8 FAMILIES DAILY. SO FAR, 58 FAMILIES HAVE MET I-130 REQUIREMENT FOR ALL MEMBERS COVERABLE BY AMCITS IN CUBA. THESE SAME FAMILIES GENERALLY HAVE, OR ARE CLOSE TO HAVING, ALL REQUIRED CIVIL DOCUMENTS (BIRTH, MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, POLICE RECORD). IF REPEAT IF THESE FAMILIES ARE AMONG THOSE WHO GET EARLY CUBAN DEPARTURE AUTHORIZATION, WE CAN VERY QUICKLY ASSEMBLE THEM, ASSESS WORKLOAD, AND DECIDE ON NEED FOR TDY ASSISTANCE (REF D) FOR ACTUAL IV ISSUANCE. SUCH ASSISTANCE NOT YET NECESSARY.

5. FOR MEXICO: TWO OFFICERS AND LOCALS IN MEXICO COULD PROCEED WITH CUBAN VISA REQUESTS FOR POSSIBLE TDY VISITS TO USINT BETWEEN JULY 29 AND SEPTEMBER 30. (HERE, AGAIN, HOWEVER, AIRLINE RESERVATIONS WILL BE EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN IMMEDIATELY BEFORE AND DURING YOUTH FESTIVAL.)

6. PRESUME DEPT. PROCEEDING TO UPDATE NAME CHECKS ON CUBAN FAMILY MEMBERS.

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